the manufacture of Polyester. Normally the international price difference between DMT and PTA is not very large. The choice of using DMT or PTA is dependent on the users' preference as quality product can be produced from both the products.

(b) Total investment in DMT and PTA raw material industries in the country is around Rs. 275 crores. The strength of workers in Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited and Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Co. Ltd. in their DMT plants is 116 and 216 respectively. Similar information in respect of Bongaigaon Refineries and Petro-chemicals Limited is not readily available.

(d) At present the selling price of indigenous DMT is around Rs. 21,000/- per tonne. Presently PTA is not being produced in the country.

Improvement of Telephone Service

2146. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to improve the working of telephone systems in the country;

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to ensure the prompt and regular delivery of mail; and

(c) the details of steps taken to redress the grievances of public about the faulty service of telephones, late delivery of telegrams, non delivery or delayed and irregular delivery of mails as well as disconnection of telephones even after the payment of bills by subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) As per statement I.

(b) As per statement-II.

(c) As per statement-III.

Statement-I

Steps taken to improve the telephone system in the country.

(1) Replacement of life-expired and worn out telephone exchanges and provision of adequate spares for maintenance of serviceable equipment;

(2) Improvement and expansion of inter-exchange junction network with provision of cable PCM and microwave systems;

(3) Rehabilitation of the external plant which is the weakest link of the system; by use of jelly filled cables, pressurisation of dry cables, providing ducts, formation of public utility coordination Boards in major cities and towns;

(4) Increasing the capacities of electronic trunk automatic exchanges and phasing out the Pentaconta crossbar trunk automatic exchange equipment which is responsible for large scale failure of STD calls;

(5) Increasing the capacities of inter-metro transmission media and provision of adequate channelling equipment.

(6) Computerisation of some of the important auto-manual services like directory enquiry and trunk booking enquiry.

(7) Augmenting and improving the telex network.

Statement-II

Steps taken to ensure prompt and regular delivery of mail

All the first class articles of letter mail and air-surcharged second class articles are airlifted wherever possible. Transmission of Second Class surface mail has been accelerated after the withdrawal of sorting work from running trains. Preliminary Sorting has been introduced in Post Offices. District/Circle concentration centres are identified besides regional concentration centres. Justified bags are closed between these centres to

eliminate hold up of mail at intermediate points. Adequate mail arrangements exist to facilitate quick transmission of mails from the point of origin to destination and early delivery. Regular monitoring of mails is done to ensure that there is no hold up of mails.

Statement—III

I. Steps taken to redress the grievances of public about faulty service of telephones and late delivery of telegrams

In addition to the full-fledged complaint organisations already existing, public grievance cells with single window clearance concept have been set-up in all telecommunication circles, metro and major telephone districts. w.e.f. 1-5-85 to look and redress the grievances of the public.

II. Non-Delivery, delayed and irregular delivery of mails

Whenever any complaint is received on non or delayed and irregular delivery of mails, immediate enquiries are made and remedial steps are taken to avoid recurrence.

III. Disconnection of telephones

Disconnection of telephones even after payment by subscribers, generally occurs when payments are made after the due date prescribed, and during the time lag it takes for the particulars of payments to reach the concerned TRA section and in some stray cases due to clerial errors. Units have already been directed to examine each case of disconnection despite payment critically and take action against the officials at fault when such irregular disconnections occur. Telephones are also restored without any re-connection fee in such cases.

Setting up of holding Companies for Public Undertakings

2147. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering setting up of a few holding companies for each group of Public Undertakings; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No final decision has been taken so far in this mater.

(b) Does not arise.

Power generated in the Country

2148. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantum of power generated in our country and what is the actual quantum of power required for all the sectors;

(b) whether Government are giving new licences for manufacturing generators to meet the power crisis in the country; and

(c) if so, whether there are any limitations fixed by Government for manufacturing power generators?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The power availability during the period April, 1985 to February, 1986 was 142,726 million units as against the requirement of about 155,198 million units.

(b) and (c) Generating units upto 60 MW capacity can be manufactured both in public and private sectors. Manufacture of generators of higher range are reserved for public sector. The present manufacturing capacity